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TWIST
PART 4
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PREVIOUSLY VENOM

"TWIST" PART 4 OF 5

Eddie Brock does not know—has *never* known—what's good for him.

Rejecting Spider-Man's offer of help against the mysterious new symbiote, Brock has instead sought out the creature. And it's *not* out of curiosity—this creature has something that Brock—or, at least, the symbiote attached to Brock—wants.

Something that it *needs*.

Realizing that she can't control the creature, Robertson has gone underground…not out of fear, but out of necessity: The symbiote wants to kill and Robertson can't bear the thought of more innocents dying. Therefore, she has hidden away in the sewers of New York where no one can find her.

No one, that is, except The Suit…and Frankie.

Gone rogue from The Ararat Corporation and out for revenge for being betrayed by Bob, Frankie's embarked on a suicide mission to destroy Bob's plans…and his precious baby.

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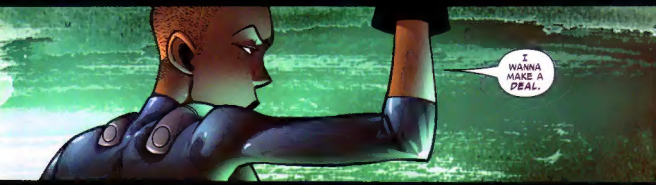

TWIST

PART FOUR

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A DEAL?!
YOU TRIED TO KILL ME!
GET OVER IT, SWEETIE.
THE BIOGENETIC DEVICE YOU'VE BEEN USING TO CONTROL THE PARASITE IS OFF-LINE...THAT'S WHY YOU CAN'T CONTROL IT.
BUT I CAN FIX THAT.
THE SIGNAL SHIFTS EVERY THREE SECONDS ALONG A PROGRESSIVE ALGORITHMIC PATTERN. NOW, I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE FREQUENCY IS RIGHT AT THIS MOMENT...
...BUT I JUST HAPPEN TO HAVE CUT-AND-PASTED THE ALGORITHM INTO MY TRUSTY LITTLE P.D.A. RIGHT HERE.
JUDGING BY WHAT YOUR FRIEND OVER THERE WAS SAYING EARLIER, I THINK HE CAN CONNECT THE DOTS AND CLEAR UP YOUR LITTLE... CONTROL PROBLEM.
OR...

GIVE ME THE DATA.
NO! SHE'S LYING--SHE'S ONE OF THEM!
SHE IS NOT LYING...I CAN TELL.
WHAT DO YOU WANT IN RETURN?
THE SAME THING AS YOU.
THEN WE HAVE A DEAL.

OH, GOD...IT'S SLIPPING AWAY-- IT'S GETTING... OUT...
HHSSSSHHHH!
PLEASE... PLEASE MAKE IT STOP!
PLEASE MAKE IT GO--
AWAY...

ROBERTSON WILL REMAIN UNCONSCIOUS FOR SEVERAL HOURS-- HER BODY WAS EXHAUSTED.
WE DON'T HAVE THAT KINDA TIME.

BOB WILL KNOW THAT THE COLLAR IS BACK ON-LINE WITHIN THE HOUR... PROBABLY SOONER. WE NEED TO MAKE OUR MOVE *NOW*.
NO.
WE WILL TAKE NO FURTHER ACTION UNTIL YOU HAVE SUPPLIED ME WITH MORE INFORMATION.
BEGIN WITH "BOB".

WE DON'T HAVE *TIME!* WE--
I HAVE STATED MY POSITION. IT WILL NOT CHANGE.
FINE.
HAVE YOU READ THE BIBLE?

I AM FAMILIAR WITH IT.
SO, YOU KNOW THE STORY OF NOAH'S ARK...AND THE FLOOD?
YES.
WELL, DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU READ.
THE FLOOD NEVER CAME.
YES, I KNOW.
YOU DO?
IT WAS CANCELLED DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER.
WHAT YOU REFER TO AS "THE FLOOD" WAS, IN FACT, A COORDINATED ACTION DESIGNED TO ERADICATE THE HUMAN RACE DUE TO THEIR PESTILENT NATURE.
THERE WAS NO WATER INVOLVED, OTHER THAN THE PERIOD OF SEVERE RAIN THAT FORCED US TO RESCHEDULE.
THEREFORE, THE DECISION WAS MADE TO PERMANENTLY CANCEL THE ACTION AND WITHDRAW.
AT THIS POINT, OUR INVOLVEMENT BECAME PROBLEMATIC--WE HAD ENLISTED TO AID IN THE ERADICATION OF A HOSTILE SPECIES, NOT TO UNDERTAKE RELIGIOUS GENOCIDE.
DURING THIS PERIOD, WE BECAME AWARE OF A CELL OF HUMANS WHO HAD BEEN BOTH FOREWARNED AND PROTECTED AGAINST THE ACTION. INVESTIGATING FURTHER, WE LEARNED THAT THE PROTECTION AFFORDED THESE PARTICULAR HUMANS WAS, IN FACT, GRANTED BY THE BEING WHO FIRST COMMISSIONED THE ACTION.

YOU WERE...
...YOU WERE THERE?
YES.
AS WAS "BOB".
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE...LIED TO ME. TO US.
ACTUALLY I CAN, FOR AS LONG AS I REMEMBER. HE TOLD MY TWIN SISTER VICKY AND ME THAT WE WERE SPECIAL-- THAT WE HAD BEEN CHOSEN TO LIVE IN A NEW AND BETTER WORLD.
WE TRAINED... ALL OF OUR LIVES TO DO WHAT WE WERE TOLD WOULD MAKE IT HAPPEN. WE BELIEVED.
IT WASN'T UNTIL THE CAMPAIGN UP NORTH IN CANADA THAT I FOUND OUT ABOUT...THE OTHERS. THAT I WAS JUST A CLONE.
A TOOL.
I WANTED TO KILL MYSELF.
BUT INSTEAD I USED THE BULLET TO SHOOT OFF MY COLLAR.
AND I RAN.
I KNEW BOB WOULDN'T BUY IT-- THAT HE WOULD EVENTUALLY FIND OUT THAT I WAS STILL ALIVE. MY ONLY HOPE WAS THAT, IF I WAS KEPT UNAWARE OF WHAT I REALLY AM, SO WERE THE OTHERS.
IF THEY SAW ME, WELL...
WHY DID YOU NOT EXPOSE YOURSELF TO THE OTHER AGENTS? THE ENSUING CONFUSION COULD--
IF THEY HAD ORDERS TO KILL ME, THEY'D KILL ME--CONFUSED OR NOT. IF THEY WERE TRAINED LIKE I WAS, THEY'D FOLLOW THEIR ORDERS.

NO, THIS IS THE ONLY WAY I CAN MAKE SURE BOB PAYS FOR HIS LIES...TO DO IT MYSELF.
I HAD TO DUCK VIRTUALLY EVERY STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCY IN TWO COUNTRIES TO GET BACK INTO THE STATES--BOB HAS INFLUENCE EVERYWHERE.
WHY DID YOU NOT TARGET ROBERTSON?
I'M NOT STUPID--HE MADE THAT THING ONCE, HE CAN DO IT AGAIN.
CORRECT.
THE CREATURE CURRENTLY ATTACHED TO ROBERTSON WAS GENETICALLY SKEWED TO PRODUCE A COLLECTION OF REPRODUCTIVE HORMONES. THESE HORMONES ARE, IN AND OF THEMSELVES, STERILE. BUT, WHEN COMBINED WITH THOSE OF THE ORIGINAL SYMBIOTE--
I KNOW.
LIKE I SAID, I'VE TRAINED FOR THIS MY ENTIRE LIFE. YOUR UNCONSCIOUS FRIEND OVER THERE IS A BRAINLESS STUD--THE KEY TO EVERYTHING LIES WITHIN EDDIE BROCK.
OBVIOUSLY, BOB HAS THE TECHNOLOGY TO CLONE ALMOST ANYTHING--BUT WHAT HE'S AFTER HAS NEVER EXISTED BEFORE. THEREFORE...
AGREED.
WE SHALL NOW PROCEED.

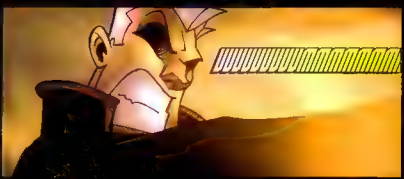
TELL ME ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION FOR WHICH YOU WORKED
BOB CALLS US "THE ARK"--WE OPERATE UNDER THE ARARAT CORPORATION...WHICH IS JUST A FRONT. TONS OF MONEY. LOTS OF INFLUENCE.
AND THE AGENTS?
STATIONED ALL OVER THE GLOBE--TENS OF THOUSANDS OF THEM. INFORMATION IS GATHERED AND SENT TO RELAY STATIONS CONSTANTLY. THEN DISSEMINATED TO AGENTS IN THE FIELD VIA BOB. ALL COMMUNICATIONS--EVEN BETWEEN AGENTS--IS CODED AND PIGGYBACKED ALONG SPARE BANDWIDTH INSIDE EXISTING RADIO AND SATELLITE SIGNALS.
THE MAN IS WIRED INTO EVERYTHING--EVERY CAMERA FEED, EVERY RADIO AND SATELLITE SIGNAL... EVERYTHING. SOONER OR LATER, HE'LL FIND US.
HE WON'T SEND AGENTS BECAUSE OF ME, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE NYPD, F.B.I. OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCY HE HAS DIRT ON.
I'D SUGGEST THAT WE STAY--
UH, HELLOO...?
WE MUST NEUTRALIZE AS MANY OF BOB'S ADVANTAGES AS POSSIBLE
I HAVE A PLAN

...SO I SAYS TO 'IM, "JERRY, DAT AIN'T NO WAY TO TREAT A LADY!"
OH, YEAH?
COMed

SO HE SAYS, "WHAT? DIS AIN'T NO LADY--IT'S MY FRIGGIN' WIPE, FER CRYIN' OUT LOUD."
HEY, BUDDY! THIS IS A HARDHAT AREA!
COMed

OH--!

CCHEEAAKKKS



WHAT THE--?
WE'RE GETTING A SURGE HERE, MARTY.
..IT'S A BIG ONE.
DUMP IT OVER TO THE DYNAMO AT NIAGARA
I'M TRYING TO-- OH, CRAP!
IT'S GOING THE OTHER WAY! THE GRID'S BACKING UP!
IT'S GONNA SHUT DOWN!
BUT WE BUFFERED AGAINST THIS--
OH, **@G...

..NOT AGAIN

THIS IS A SPECIAL REPORT
TONIGHT, NEW YORK CITY, AS WELL AS ALMOST THE ENTIRE NORTHEAST QUADRANT OF THE COUNTRY, HAS ONCE AGAIN BEEN PLUNGED INTO DARKNESS, AS ALL ELECTRICAL POWER HAS FAILED.
REPRESENTATIVES AT CON ED HAVE SCHEDULED A PRESS CONFERENCE, WHILE THE MAYOR'S OFFICE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE MAYOR HAS SPOKEN TO THE PRESIDENT AND ASSURED THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK THAT EVERY MAN AND WOMAN OF EVERY AVAILABLE STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCY HAS BEEN CALLED UP TO HELP DURING THE CRISIS.
THE MAYOR'S OFFICE ALSO ASKS THAT YOU PLEASE NOT CALL INTO NEW YORK CITY, AS THE LINES WILL QUICKLY BECOME OVERLOADED.

BOB TO VIC--DO YOU COPY?
BOB TO VIC--DO YOU COPY?
BLEEP!
BOB TO FRANKIE--DO YOU COPY?
BOB...? IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?
I'M SURE THAT IT IS.
I JUST HATE TO BE IN THE DARK

NNNGGG...
WH--?
HELLO?
WHERE AM I?
DON'T BE CONCERNED, MA'AM...

...EVERY-THING IS UNDER CONTROL.
JOHNNY-- IS THE VIDEO COMPLETE?
4

ALMOST... GOTTA MAKE SURE I LOOK COOL...
DONE!
THANK YOU.

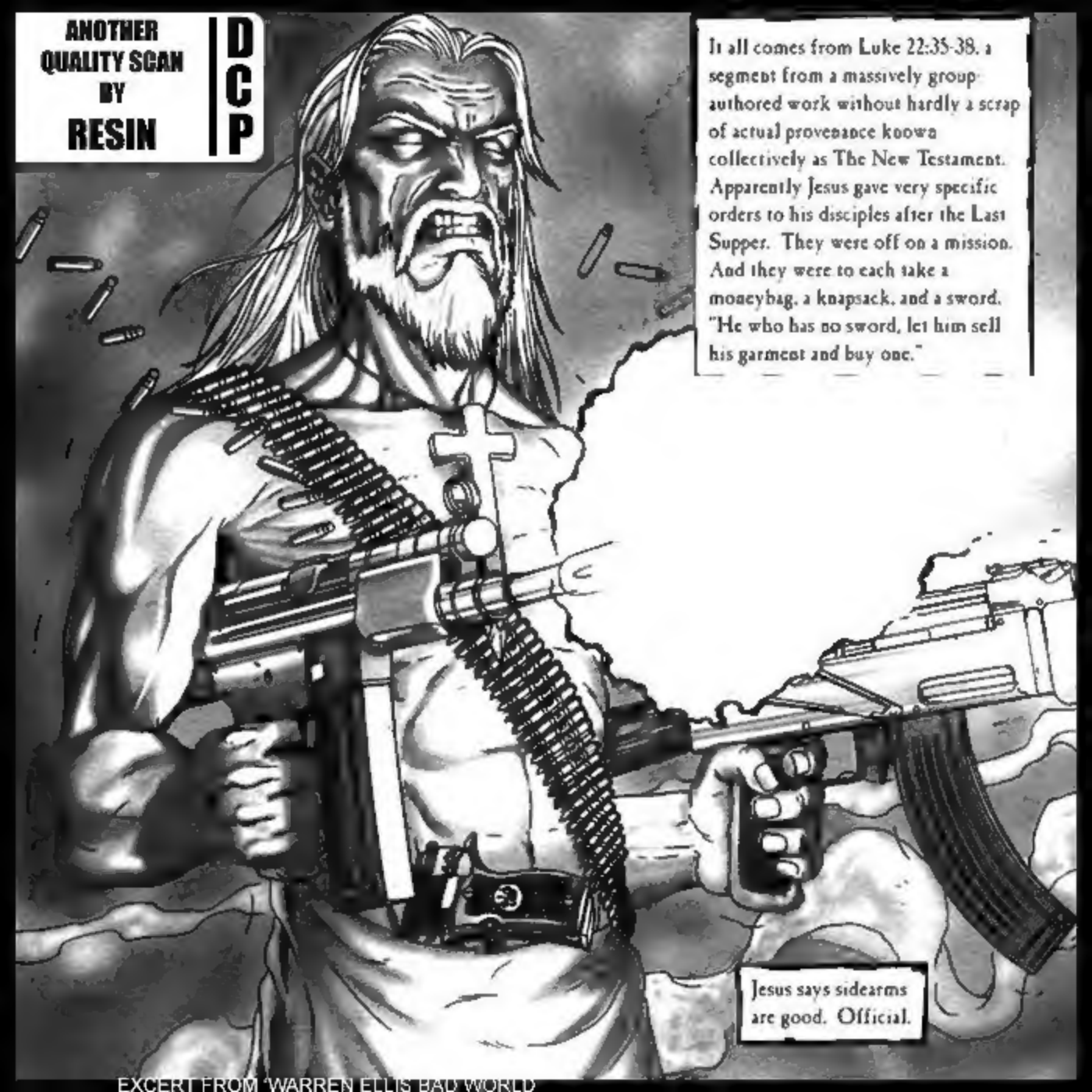
WE MUST MOVE QUICKLY-- WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.
SUE--HAVE YOU SECURED MY SAMPLES YET?
YES, REED...
COURIER!
WROQ.
NEWS-ROOM.
THIRTY-THIRD FLOOR
OKAY...

THIS JUST IN TO THE WROQ NEWSROOM:
MOMENTS AFTER THIS EVENING'S BLACKOUT, THE FANTASTIC FOUR BATTLED WITH THE MONSTER KNOWN AS VENOM, EVENTUALLY SUBDUING THE CREATURE AFTER AN AWE-INSPIRING DISPLAY OF HEROISM BY THE HUMAN TORCH.
THE FF HAVE NOT STATED WHETHER OR NOT VENOM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE POWER OUTAGE, BUT THEY ARE KEEPING THE CREATURE CONFINED AT THE BAXTER BUILDING PENDING AN INVESTIGATION.
MORE AS THIS SITUATION DEVELOPS.

REED!
REED!
LEMME IN!
OH, FOR GOODNESS' SAKE...
ALL RIGHT, THE LAST THING WE NEED TO DO IS--
DEEE!-DEEE!-DEEE!!
HOLD ON...
REED, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON! THE--
YES, SPIDER-MAN, I DO. NOW PLEASE LEAVE--WE'RE VERY BUSY.
CLICK
AS I WAS SAYING: THE LAST THING WE NEED TO DO IS--

KRSH!!
--OPEN THE SKYLIGHT.
TO BE CONTINUED...

ANOTHER QUALITY SCAN BY RESIN
DCP



EXCERT FROM 'WARREN ELLIS BAD WORLD'